

From: [CityWatch for Friday, July 24, 2015](#)
To: [Kent Smith](#)
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Here is the latest CityWatch brief for Friday, July 24, 2015

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CORRUPTION BY ANY OTHER NAME



Why Los Angeles Doesn't Trust City Hall

Jack Humphreville

LA WATCHDOG-The media is having a field day exposing the shenanigans of the Herb Wesson led City Council and Mayor Eric Garcetti. But these backroom deals, when taken as a whole, represent a pattern of corruption which jeopardizes our residential neighborhoods and quality of life, the City's financial health, and the voters' trust and confidence...



The Outrageously High Cost of New Drugs Can Make You Sick ... Here's a Possible Cure

Bob Gelfand

GELFAND'S WORLD-The cries of outrage have been heard from coast to coast. A biotech company from Boston has come up with a new drug that treats the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis, and they want to get paid for it. Specifically, they intend to charge \$259,000 per year for what the average patient will require. Elsewhere, a new drug that...



LA, You Suck at Parking

Andria Farrell

MAD AS HELL-Many Angelenos leave their cars in the worst places, so I started an Instagram campaign to make them think twice about being jerks. I moved from Connecticut to Los Angeles on a whim six years ago to pursue a career as a makeup artist. I had two suitcases, a couple thousand dollars in my pocket, and a few friends begging me to join...



Broken City Sidewalks, Broken City Promises, Broken City Processes

Ken Alpern

FIX IT POLITICS-Next Tuesday night there will be much discussion about our city's broken sidewalk and how to pay for it. Tired old speaking points and aphorisms will be thrown out, and tired old solutions will be discussed, and courageous fixes for these problems will be ignored ... again. The presentation about sidewalk repairs is from 6-8 pm on...



To TOD or Not to TOD

Richard Risemberg

GUEST WORDS-Transit-Oriented Development is one of the watchwords of the new urbanism, and the progressive development world in general. You know the drill: mixed-use, mixed-income buildings, Complete Streets, access to transit, bicycle facilities, reduced parking requirements, etc etc. So what happens when the suits grant you a giant mixed-user...



High Speed Rail: Off Track In My Backyard

Denyse Selesnick

MY TURN-Every once in a great while an issue comes along that is truly bipartisan. Regardless of political persuasion ... everyone hates it! They say that politics makes strange bedfellows and this one is a great example. When voters

gave approval to Governor Jerry Brown's legacy issue ... The Bullet Train ... approved by voters with a \$9-billion bond...



Developer Matthew Jacobs: Demolition Man ... 'Too Late to Stop Fairfax Evictions'

Lovell Estell III

TENANTS RISE UP—Steven Luftman did not have much to feel good about last Tuesday as he stood in the TSA line before catching a flight from Sacramento to Los Angeles. After all, he was in the process of being evicted from his Fairfax District rental under the state's Ellis Act, a law that speculators often use to kick out long-term renters from...



Crash Course: What You Need to Know about the School-to-Prison Pipeline

Emily Wilson

ARTS AND ACTIVISM—In her latest solo show, “Notes From the Field: Doing Time in Education, the California Chapter” at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre through Aug. 2, Anna Deavere Smith (photo) looks at the “school-to-prison pipeline.” The term refers to how kids—mostly poor and nonwhite—are being pushed out of school into the criminal justice system...

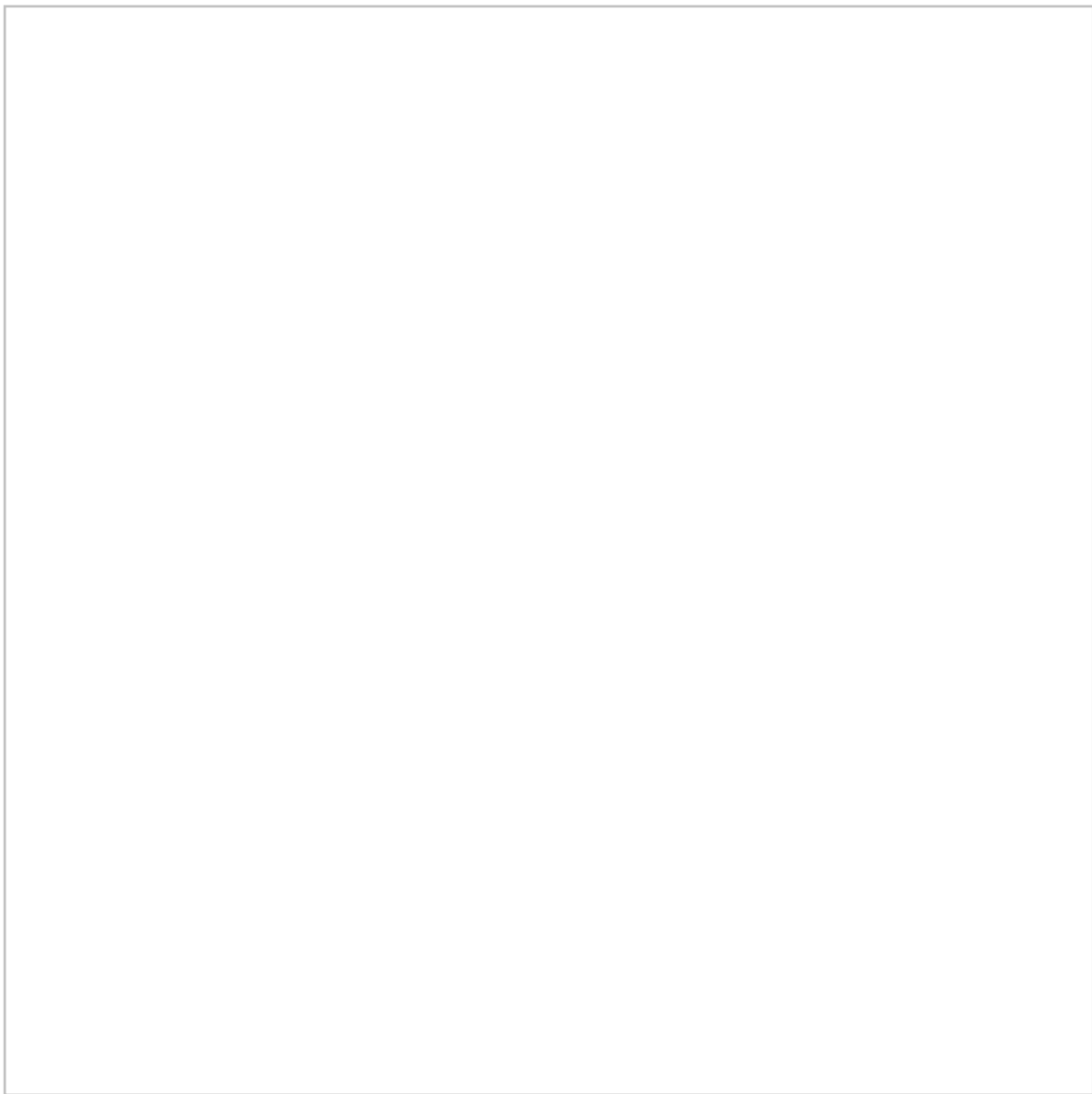


If We Can't Trust Mexico to Keep El Chapo in Jail, Then How Can We Trust Them on Anything?'

Ginger Thompson

A CONVERSATION WITH THE DRUG TRAFFICKERS—The slight man at the breakfast table seemed more like an evangelical minister than someone who once brokered deals between Mexican drug lords and state governors. He wore a meticulously pressed button-down, a gold watch, gold-rimmed glasses, and a gold cross around his neck. His dark brown hair was styled...





Plus, these CityWatch stories:

LA's Tale of Two Cities

Aaron M. Renn

New Angle: What the Supreme Court Has To Say About Sandra Bland's Arrest

Ian Millhiser

I Stand With Planned Parenthood ... Fact Checkers Expose Anti-Choice Smear Campaign

Sarah Lazare

Want to Improve Voter Participation? Improve Government!

Kristin Olsen

GOP and Obamacare: Risking Your Health for Your Politics

Seth Tasker

Getting Down to Business in Cuba

Medea Benjamin

LAUSD Blacklists Thousands of Teachers ... Here's How

Leonard Isenberg

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